(a) During the last three years, 13 State roads were declared as National Highways totalling to a length of 1281 kms.

(b) The details of funds allocated to the State for development and maintenance of National Highways during the last three years are as under:

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
		(Rs. in crores)	
Development	195.19	357.13	615.95
Maintenance	63.28	63.30	60.11

(c) At present there is no proposal to declare any new National Highway in the State.

(d) Does not arise.

Use of Hindi on registration plates

†1009. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 5384 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th May, 2002 and state:

(a) whether Hindi appears to be neglected in the National Capital Region itself;

(b) if so, the necessity on Government's part for spending such a huge amount on the promotion of Hindi; and

(c) whether Government would reconsider the above question keeping in view the aforesaid facts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Due to diversity of languages in the country and also the fact that the working language in different States/UTs is different, the existing system of writing letters of registration mark in English and the figures in Arabic numerals is the best possible option. Use of an additional registration plate displaying letters in any other Indian language mentioned in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution has already been permitted by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government vide notification No. S.O. 827(E) dated 11.11.1992. There is no proposal to review the present arrangement.

Resurfacing of Delhi-Mathura Road

1010. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SHRI ANIL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "NHAI lets loose its crater" appeared in the 'H.T. Faridabad Live' dated the 1st July, 2002;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the NHAI to resurface the 50 metres stretch of the road before monsoon;

(c) by when the above work would be completed; and

(d) the reasons for not resurfacing the stretch despite the fact that trunk sewer line was repaired in April/May, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The repair work was already in progress when the news-item appeared in the newspaper. The work is targeted to be completed by 7.8.2002.

(d) After the repair of trunk sewer line, the stretch was handed over to NHAI in May, 2002. Immediately thereafter, the action for fixing of agency for executing the work was started and work is now progressing.

Accidents on National Highways in Himachal Pradesh

1011. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the fatal road accidents on the highways in Himachal Pradesh and the proportion by which such accidents have risen during the last three years;